

Nipissing Forest Local Citizens Committee Meeting
Location: M.N.R. Boardroom
Date: June 15, 2010

INTEREST	Primary Member	P/A	Alternate Member	P/A	Others Present
Access groups, Anglers/Hunters	Lloyd Anderson	P	Peter Foy	A	<p>MNR Staff: None available</p> <p>SFL: Support Resources Ric Hansel – support resources NFRM</p> <p>Guests:</p> <p>Observer:</p> <p>Recorder: Gerry Van Leeuwen</p> <p>c.c. Peter Street, NFRM Inc. Dave Payne, MNR</p>
Cottagers	Dave Minden	P	VACANT	N/A	
District Aboriginal Working Group	Dave Joannis	A	Clayton Dokis	A	
Education	Jan Vandermeer	A	VACANT	N/A	
Environmental Groups	Jan Vandermeer	A	Brennain Lloyd	P	
Independent Loggers	Elwyn Behnke	P	Blayne Behnke	A	
Local Cultural Heritage Groups	Roy Summers	P	VACANT	N/A	
Municipalities, Chmbrs of Comm, Econ. Development	Chris Mayne	P	Sarah Campbell	A	
Naturalists	Lorie Reed	A	Roy Summers	P	
Prospectors, Mining/Aggregates	Frank Tagliamonte	P	Mike Roxborough	A	
Public at Large	Tracey Cain	P	Tim Toepfner	P	
Silvicultural Contractors	Andy Straughan	P	VACANT	N/A	
Sustainable Forest Licensee – Nipissing Forest R. Mgmt. Inc.	John McNutt	A	Peter Street	A	
Tourist Industry	Johnny Matthews	A	VACANT	N/A	
Trails	Jennifer McCourt	A	Tracey Cain	P	
Trappers & Baitfish	Heinz Erb	A	Johnny Matthews	A	
Wood Workers/Trade Unions	VACANT	N/A	VACANT	N/A	

AGENDA

1. Call to Order 5:30 p.m. / Introductions – Chair Andy Straughan
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Review and Approval of Minutes of previous LCC meeting, April 20, 2010
4. Field Trip Comments (5 min.)
5. Proposed amendment to the 2010 FMP - Nipissing Forest is proposing to “carry- over” harvest allocations from the 2004 FMP (15 min.-Ric H.)
6. EBR Postings-Summary (5 min.-Brennain L.)
7. Proposed changes to the Forest Management Class EA Declaration Order-June 18th deadline for comment (15 min.-Brennain L.)
8. Forest Tenure Reform-June 29th deadline for comment (10 min.-Brennain L.)
9. LCC Affairs
 - 6.1.1 Review of Terms of Reference
 - 6.1.2 Annual Agenda Item – Election of co-chairs for 2010-11
10. Correspondence
11. Other Business
12. Upcoming Workshops/ Events /Training
13. Next Meeting: _____ September 21/2010 _____
14. Adjournment

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Andy Straughan called the meeting to order at 5: 30 p.m. – no guests on hand requiring introduction.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as amended after adding section 5b, What’s on Your Mind and by adding a bullet point to item 9 entitled 9.3 Secretarial Functions.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes of the April 20, 2010 Minutes

No amendments were requested to the DRAFT version of the April 20th Minutes so those previously circulated will now become our Final version.

4. Field Trip Comments

Co-chair Andy Straughan commented that the May 10, 2010 LCC Field Trip to the Goulard Lumber mill in Sturgeon Falls had been well received...although a bit loud for some.....and that the follow up to view some slash treatments in the field made for an interesting day for attendees.

5. Proposed amendment to the 2010 FMP - Amendment 2009-

009 – Ric Hansel

(Attachment #1 - FMP Amendment 2009-009)

Nipissing Forest Resource Management Inc. is proposing to “carry- over” harvest allocations from the 2004 FMP - Ric Hansel presented a slide show to explain the amendment being proposed. Due to the economic downturn in 2007-08, harvesting operations slowed down considerably as markets for wood decreased. As a result, several areas approved for harvest in the previous 2004 FMP were not harvested despite investments having been made in those areas. Some of these areas had been tree marked and not cut, (marking costs about \$60/ha.) other areas had roads built into them but were not operated in. Better Forest Resources Inventory (FRI) information also helped identify some white pine stands requiring first removal treatments at the present time, before regeneration is set back.

The amendment seeks to add these areas, previously approved in the 2004 FMP and areas included in the approved 2009 FMP from contingency, to the current 2010 FMP and will seek removal of a similar amount of forest areas and species composition from harvesting, from the 2010 FMP in exchange. This exchange will see approximately 2210 ha. added to the 2010 FMP while 2256 ha. of area will be removed from the approved harvest operations.

NFRM Inc. Also proposes to seek some transfers within the 2010 FMP by re-designating some Phase 1 operations (years 1-5 of the FMP) as Phase 2 operations (years 6-10 of the FMP) while re-designating comparable Phase 2 operations into Phase 1 of the plan. This exchange proposes to transfer 892 ha. from Phase 1 to Phase 2 while transferring 670 ha. from Phase 2 to Phase 1. Poor initial planning was cited as the reason for these needed transfers.

The amendment also seeks to add 15 ha. of new harvest area to the 2010 FMP that has not yet been subjected to public review. This area is West of Trout Creek and will be operated by Scott Gray. Ric drew a diagram of the proposal to demonstrate that the submission should have minimal public/environmental impact. The 15 ha. is within a 40 ha Crown lot , surrounded by patented lands, that was previously approved for harvest as a 10 ha. Hard Maple shelterwood seeding cut. Red pine found in three pockets on this crown lot total the 15 ha. now under discussion and NFRM Inc. feels that the pine should be allocated for a thinning cut while the maple is being harvested. This would bring the whole block into the same harvest cycle.

Ric identified the areas under discussion on maps for LCC and finally asked LCC to make a recommendation on what category the LCC felt this amendment would fall in to.

A lively round table discussion ensued with concerns expressed by most members present, that this amendment should actually have been presented as three separate amendments requiring three separate votes by LCC. LCC felt that the proposals were distinctly different enough to warrant such separation.

Following discussion, LCC decided that it would recommend that the amendment be designated as a **minor** amendment but that communication of this decision to the local District Manager would urge that the amendment be advertised as one containing three very distinct sections. Specifically;

Part A, being a direct trade off of added 2004 FMP harvest approvals for equivalent removal of 2010 FMP approval areas.

Part B, being the transfer of some 2010 FMP approved Phase 1 operations to Phase 2 and a similar number of Phase 2 operations transferred into Phase 1.

Part C, being the addition of 15 ha. of new harvest proposed to the 2010 FMP on the crown lot West of Trout Creek, to bring the entire block into the same harvesting cycle.

Co-chairs Andy Straughan and Tracey Cain will draft a letter to the District Manager, North Bay District, to advise him of LCC's decision and the recommendation to identify the three distinct proposals within the one amendment.

5b. What's on Your Mind

Communication – Dave Minden requested that NFRM Inc. consider notifying LCC in advance of future amendment proposals. An email or other form of communication outlining an amendment proposal before its discussion at an upcoming meeting might help prepare LCC a bit better for the proposal's review and approval. Ric Hansel agreed this was a good suggestion and will implement this for future amendment proposals.

Amendment Classification voting process – Dave Minden asked if it might not be beneficial to revise the voting chart by removing the first topic considered, Public Consultation. Dave feels that completing the rest of the chart should help us determine the category of public consultation required and that this should not be evaluated as the first topic considered. LCC discussed the proposal but felt the chart should be left as is until a fuller review of its application can be held.

MNR Participation – Tracey explained that she and Andy had been notified that our MNR representatives would be out of town on our meeting date and was offered an opportunity to reschedule the meeting. It was decided to hold the meeting on our regular date to best accommodate LCC member schedules. Given that a delay in the meeting date would have delayed discussion and a decision of the amendment proposed at item 5 above, it was beneficial to have conducted our meeting today.

6. EBR Postings-Summary - Brennain Lloyd

Brennain passed around copies and reviewed the summary of the Environmental Bill of Rights postings she had prepared for LCC to cover the period of items of interest from April 13, 2010 up to June 15, 2010 (Please review your handouts for details).

7. Proposed changes to the Forest Management Class EA Declaration Order- June 18th deadline for comment - Brennain Lloyd

Brennain indicated that the Environmental Bill of Rights posting for this item is 40 pages of very fine print. She summarized the highlights of this item on the EBR handout provided at the meeting under EBR posting #010-9448 and emphasized that the deadline for comment was June 18, 2010, only three days away. The bottom line is that we will likely see a new Forest Management Planning Manual in 2011 to replace the one brought in this year. Proposed changes include moving from two five year planning terms in the FMP to one ten year planning term and a provision to extend the FMP for an additional two years (a twelve year FMP) should harvesting have fallen behind.

Harvest reviews currently done at year three of each five year phase will be changed to have a review at year four of the ten year term.

LCC review processes and operating methods are also being considered for changes. The issue resolution process will also be amended to exclude the plan author from involvement in the process in future.

The list of items allowing for "Bump Up" requests for individual class environmental assessment is being shortened to ensure the process will address concerns that are more geographic in scope. (rather than social concerns?).

8. Forest Tenure Reform-June 29th deadline for comment - Brennain Lloyd

Brennain stated that the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forests (MNDMF) did their first round of public consultation on this process in the fall of 2009. Last month MNDMF met with stakeholders and the public to describe the tenure reform framework but it was poorly communicated and left folks with a lot of questions.

It is suspected that the new forest tenure model will see local management corporations run by boards to take over forest management and marketing functions and perhaps operations as well...not a lot of detail yet. Product marketing will get a higher focus but we will likely see smaller forest management units as part of the reform. A new revenue model proposes to reinvest stumpage fees collected locally into the local forest..... some confusion here as no crown stumpage is being collected for many species at present due to poor market conditions.

More information can be obtained at the Ontario website, www.ontarioforesttenure.ca

Elwyn Behnke commented that the problem area requiring reform was the area of northern Ontario lying north of a line drawn from Sault Ste. Marie to Timmins and that reform was not needed for the area south of that line.

Mark Spears (MNDMF) and Bill Thornton (MNR) are the key players promoting the tenure reform.

9. LCC Affairs

9.1 **Review of Terms of Reference** - No amendments to review.

9.2 **Annual Agenda Item – Election of co-chairs for 2010-11**

Co-Chair Andy Straughan announced that he would be stepping down this year and that he was not seeking re-election. Co-chair Tracey Cain made a similar announcement. After a round table discussion, Chris Mayne volunteered to take a co-chair position for the upcoming year. Tracey offered to retain her co-chair position for another year unless an LCC member comes forward to replace her. Several absent LCC members will be contacted to determine if any may be interested in performing co-chair duties next season. LCC expresses it's thanks to Andy and Tracey for a year of fine chairmanship with a special thank you to Chris Mayne for volunteering to take on these new duties in the fall.

Tracey will organize the September agenda for our first meeting in the fall.

9.3 **Secretarial Functions** – Dave Minden asked why an LCC member was being asked to gather names of meeting attendees before each meeting and then passing the list on to MNR and the recorder for their information. Dave suggested that the secretary/recorder should be responsible for gathering member responses to create some efficiency in the process. He felt that this was a secretarial function and recommended Gerry take this on as part of his regular duties. The LCC agreed and advised Gerry to contact Jennifer McCourt to see how strongly she felt about retaining that duty.

UPDATE NOTE: Jennifer and Gerry discussed this item since the meeting and have decided that we will implement LCC's recommendation. Jennifer felt that her disappointment should subside over time..... We figure that three minutes should take care of it.

10. Correspondence – Nothing received

11. Other Business – No items to address

12. Upcoming Workshops/ Events /Training – Nothing to report

13. Next Meeting: _____September 21/2010_____

14. Adjournment 8:30 p.m. – Thank you all and have a great summer everyone!